



Ruth Johnson
Oakland County Clerk/Register of Deeds
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April 20, 2010

Honorable Kathy Angerer, Chairperson
Ethics and Elections Committee
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Dear Chairperson Angerer,

Thank you for holding a hearing on House Bills 6030, 6031, 6032 and 6033.

I'd like to go on record supporting each of these bills. I believe they are important changes to our election laws that will streamline election administration and save counties as well as cities and townships significant dollars.

Under HB 6030, the way absentee counting boards are conducted will be more uniform. As a result, counties will save significant dollars in ballot printing costs because they will be able to more accurately order ballot quantities for each precinct and there will also be less of a chance of running out of ballots on Election Day. The chance of precincts being recountable will significantly increase, it will provide a fairer candidate rotation and will provide candidates with absentee voter results by precinct rather than as an aggregate.

Under HB 6031-6033, local canvassing boards will be eliminated and those functions will be performed by the Board of County Canvassers. This adds greater accountability and oversight to the canvassing process, eliminates the need for duplication of materials to be used by two separate canvassing boards and eliminates potential problems in the conduct of local office recounts.

I would appreciate your support for House Bills 6030, 6031, 6032 and 6033. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to call me or my Elections Director, Joe Rozell, at (248) 858-0564.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ruth Johnson".

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